

In the claims:

1. (Original) A text to voice messaging device, operating in conjunction with a television messaging system, having messaging software, the system comprising:
 - a set-top box in communication with the television messaging system, and adapted to deliver a message through a television coupled thereto;
 - a text receiving module executed in the set-top box, and adapted to receive text from a user;
 - a text to speech module coupled to said text receiving module for transforming said text into speech, said text to speech module adapted to produce a voice output corresponding to said text; and,
 - a voice delivery module adapted to deliver said output to a target messaging system capable of receiving voice messages.
2. (Original) The text to voice messaging device of claim 1 further comprising a text entry device to deliver user typed text to said text receiving module.
3. (Original) The text to voice messaging device of claim 1 wherein said output delivery module is adapted to transmit said output to the target voice messaging system in a voice data file format.
4. (Original) The text to voice messaging device of claim 1 further wherein said output delivery module is adapted to transmit said output to the target voice messaging system in a speech format.
5. (Original) The text to voice messaging device of claim 1 wherein said set-top box is adapted to be coupled on an IP network and deliver said output therethrough.

6. (Currently amended) ~~the~~ The text to voice device wherein said target messaging system is a unified messaging system.

7-14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) A voice to text messaging system operating in conjunction with a television messaging system having a television messaging system, the voice to text messaging system comprising:

a server located remotely to a user premises, said server adapted to deliver messaging to a television via a downstream network;

a set top box coupled to said downstream network;

a text entry device in communications with said set top box, for text entry by a user;

~~a speech-to-text module, executable on said set-top box and~~ text to speech module, executable on said set-top box and adapted to produce output representative said text in speech format; and,

a voice delivery module adapted to deliver said output to a target messaging server adapted to receive voice messages.

16. (Currently amended) ~~a~~ A messaging method comprising the steps of:

outputting a message to a user using a television;

receive a response message from a user, said response message comprising text;

~~in a set-top box,~~ transforming said text into an output in a speech format; and,

delivering said output to a messaging server adapted to receive voice messages.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) ~~The~~The method of claim **Error! Reference source not found.** wherein said set top box is coupled to a data network and wherein said step of delivering is performed via said data network.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein said data network is an Internet.

20. (cancelled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein said output is in the form of a file containing data representing said speech.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein said output comprises electrical signals representing said speech.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said step of delivering is performed by feeding said signals to a telephone network.

24. (cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A set-top box operating in conjunction with a television messaging system and adapted to deliver a message through a television coupled thereto, the set-top box comprising:

a text receiving module executed in the set-top box, coupled to a keyboard for receiving text from a user;

a text to speech module ~~executed on said set top box, and~~ coupled to said text receiving module for transforming said text into speech, said text to speech module adapted to produce a voice output corresponding to said text;

a voice delivery module adapted to deliver said output to a target messaging system capable of receiving voice messages; and,

an upstream network interface capable of delivering said output.